



*Joint Meeting:
Regional Council of Rural Counties &
California Biodiversity Council*

September 20 Meeting Program
DoubleTree Hotel, Rohnert Park

8:00 AM Registration

8:30 Business Meeting – Biodiversity Council
Report from the Executive Committee (Carl Rountree)
Council Announcements (all)
Requests for Signatures on the Veg Management MOU (Hoshovsky)

9:00 Welcome and Introductions (Mary Nichols and Tom Bamert)

9:10 Topic 1 – Off-Highway Vehicle Management

1. Overview of Current OHV Management Proposals by the State of California
Dave Widell, Deputy Director, Dept. Parks and Recreation)
2. Panel Discussion: (Moderator: Dave Widell)
3. Robert Ham (Executive Director, COLAB, Imperial County), Paul Spitler
(OHVMR Commission and California Wilderness Coalition), Ronald Rodrigues
(San Benito Co. Supervisor), and Dana Bell (National Off-Highway Vehicle
Conservation Council)
4. Open discussion Among RCRC and CBC members (Facilitator: Mary Nichols)

10:45 Break

11:00 Topic 2 – Watershed Planning and Management

1. Overview of “Best Funding Practices for Watershed Management” highlighting
possible action items for the CBC and presenting a pilot project as a case study
Presenters: Maria Rea and Nina Gordon (Resources Agency), Kathleen Bullard
(Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy), Jonathan Berkey (Elkhorn Slough
Watershed Group) and Nettie Drake (Silver Creek/Panoche Watershed Group)
2. Discussion of possible endorsement by the CBC (Moderator: Mary Nichols)

Noon Lunch

1:30 PM Legislative Update by RCRC Staff

This will be a briefing to discuss the Legislative proposals regarding watershed management that have been introduced this session.

2:00 Topic 3 – Improving Participation by Rural Counties in Public Land-Use Planning

1. Introductions, purpose and format for the discussion – Mary Nichols
2. Panel discussion – experiences and impressions of county involvement with public land planning projects that were organized at different scales.
 Presenters:
 Linda Arcularius – Inyo County
 Nancy Huffman – Modoc County
 Robert Meacher – Plumas County
 Elizabeth Martin – Nevada County
 Robert Weygandt – Placer County
3. Open discussion on methods for improving participation by local government with public land-use planning (moderator: Mary Nichols)

3:45 Break

4:00 Topic 4 – Methyl Mercury In the Sierra Nevada

The last topic will be an informational discussion about methyl mercury contamination in the Sierra Nevada. This discussion will address ongoing studies of mercury contamination and current agency actions to address the issue.

1. Elizabeth Martin (Nevada County Supervisor and session moderator)
 Introductions, purpose and format for the discussion
2. Charlie Alpers (USGS) – Overview of mercury contamination history and ongoing studies
3. Darryl Young (Department of Conservation) – Interagency efforts to address this issue
4. Tim Snellings (Nevada County Planning Department) – Efforts by local government to address the issue
5. A Representative from the mining industry (TBA)

5:00 Adjourn